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BASEL CONVENTION

Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
Eleventh meeting
Geneva, 3–6 September 2018
Item 3 (a) (i) of the provisional agenda*
Matters related to the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2018–2019: strategic issues: strategic framework

Strategic framework

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In its decision BC-13/1, on the strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for 2012–2021, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal acknowledged that the midterm evaluation report could not be prepared owing in part to the low level of responses to the request for information in support of the indicators listed in section V of the strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for 2012–2021.[1]

2. In paragraph 5 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties decided to forego the midterm evaluation and adopted a new approach for the preparation of the final evaluation of the strategic framework in time for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in 2021.

3. In that new approach, the Conference of the Parties decided to establish a small intersessional working group and, as specified in paragraph 9 of the decision, requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the working group:

(a) To identify all relevant sources of information related to the indicators to be used for the preparation of the final evaluation of the strategic framework;

(b) To gather and compile the necessary additional information from sources identified in subparagraph 3 (a) above;

(c) To prepare a draft compilation of the information for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its eleventh meeting and to finalize the compilation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting.

4. With respect to work to be carried out subsequent to the eleventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and to the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat, in paragraph 9 of the same decision and among other things, to prepare, using as a basis the compilation of information referred to in subparagraph 3 (c) above, and

* UNEP/CHW/OEWG.11/1.

[1] Decision BC-10/2, annex.

taking into account any further comments by Parties and others as requested by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting and the information provided by Parties relevant to the indicators and Parties' annual national reports, a draft report on the final evaluation of the strategic framework for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its twelfth meeting and to submit the final version of the report to the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

II. Implementation

5. Following the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, on 2 June 2017 the Secretariat sent to all Parties a call for information requesting each regional group to nominate through its Bureau representative, by 31 July 2017, two members of the small intersessional working group with specific knowledge and expertise in the evaluation of strategic plans, programmes, treaties or the national implementation of the Basel Convention.

6. As at 3 April 2018, nominations of members had been made by the following nine Parties: Cabo Verde and Tunisia for the African region; State of Palestine and Thailand for the Asia-Pacific region; Georgia for the Central and Eastern European region; Argentina and Ecuador for the Latin American and Caribbean region; and Canada and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the Western European and other States region. Members of the intersessional working group were invited to express interest in co-chairing the group. Following consultations, and since only one member expressed interest in serving as Co-Chair, Mr. Zaghloul Samhan (State of Palestine) was elected as Chair.

7. Working by electronic means, the small intersessional working group held a consultation on 19 February 2018 to organize its work and initiate activities leading to the development of the draft compilation of information referred to in subparagraph 3 (c) above. In doing so, the working group decided to focus on preparing a compilation of sources of information and any additional information relevant to those sources, for example their applicability to the indicators listed in section V of the strategic framework and any data limitations.

8. Thanks to the generous financial support provided by the Government of Norway, the Secretariat retained a consultant to support the working group in preparing the draft compilation of information.

9. The draft compilation of information related to the indicators to be used for the preparation of the final evaluation of the strategic framework, which was elaborated by the Secretariat in consultation with the working group, is set out in document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.11/INF/3.

III. Proposed action

10. The Open-ended Working Group may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Open-ended Working Group,

1. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the small intersessional working group on the strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for 2012–2021;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat, in consultation with the small intersessional working group, to finalize the draft compilation[2] by 17 December 2018, taking into account the discussions held during the eleventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting.

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[2] UNEP/CHW/OEWG.11/INF/3.